ABSTRACT

Electrodeless discharge lamp lighting device. Start circuit 19 sweeps operating frequency of resonance circuit 16 from start frequency to end frequency of resonance frequency side through drive circuit 18 and DC/AC conversion circuit 15, and starts electrodeless discharge lamp 13. Control circuit 10 increases or decreases variable power into circuit 18 so that detection current comes to equal prescribed current for shifting the operating frequency to middle range frequency between the start frequency and the end frequency. The prescribed current is set so that the detection voltage in case of the middle range frequency becomes lower than that in case of the end frequency. Capacitor 106 constituting integration circuit starts suppression of operation of circuit 10 when lamp 13 is started, and holds the suppression during at least start mode. Accordingly, it is possible to stably start lamp 13 and control stress on circuit(s) after lamp 13 is successfully started.